



## Los Angeles County Regional Park And Open Space District

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November 12, 2014

The Honorable Board of Directors  
County of Los Angeles  
Regional Park and Open Space District  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE CITIES EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE THIRD  
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT TO THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT TO  
THE LOS ANGELES RIVER REVITALIZATION CORPORATION FOR  
THE LA KRETZ CROSSING BRIDGE PROJECT  
THIRD DISTRICT)  
(3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$333,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, to the City of Los Angeles for a grant to the Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation for building a bridge across the Los Angeles River.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Certify that the Board, as a responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, has independently considered and reached its own conclusions regarding the environmental effects of the proposed La Kretz Crossing Bridge Project and the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program adopted by the City of Los Angeles, as lead agency; determine that the documents adequately address the environmental impacts of the proposed project; find that the Board has complied with the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act with respect to the process for a responsible agency and adopt by reference the City of Los Angeles's Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program.
2. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$333,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, to the City of Los Angeles for a grant to the Los Angeles River Revitalization

Corporation for the proposed La Kretz Crossing Bridge Project.

3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant after the City of Los Angeles assigns its right to apply for the funds to the Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation, and when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grant as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$333,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), to the City of Los Angeles (City) for a grant to the Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation (LARRC) for the proposed La Kretz Crossing Bridge Project (Project).

LARRC is a non-profit organization that strives to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles by promoting responsible development, redevelopment, and revitalization of properties along the Los Angeles River Corridor.

The proposed Project involves the development of a new bridge across the Los Angeles River in the 21st century, including site preparation and construction of a steel multi-use suspension bridge to accommodate pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians and provide connections between the Los Angeles River and Atwater Village, North Atwater Park, and Griffith Park.

The total estimated project cost is \$9,660,000. The recommended amount not to exceed \$333,000 in Specified Excess Funds will be supplemented by \$3,660,000 from the Active Transportation Program Funds, \$5,000,000 from the Morton La Kretz and Council District 4 and 13 Discretionary Funds, and \$667,000 from in-kind services.

The City, which is a qualified recipient of Cities Excess Funds under the 1996 Proposition, will assign its right to apply for the \$333,000 to LARRC.

It is also recommended, that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, be authorized to award a grant after the City assigns the rights to apply for the funds to LARRC and when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, if applicable. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by the Board.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended action will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by improving and enhancing recreational activities in the Third Supervisorial District.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Sufficient appropriation for the grant in the amount of \$333,000 is budgeted in the Third Supervisorial District's portion of the Regional Park and Open Space District's (RPOSD) Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The City and LARRC each meets this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining, each fiscal year, the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grant will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Third Supervisorial District for Cities projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director will be authorized to award a grant when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grant as well.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

All public agency projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The City is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The City, in its role as lead agency in matters pertaining to compliance with CEQA, by Resolution 12-0533 adopted by the City Council on September 17, 2013, found and determined that, with the implementation of mitigation measures as a condition of approval of the proposed Project, there was no substantial evidence that the Project would have a significant effect on the environment; found that the Mitigated Negative Declaration reflected the independent judgment of the City; approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration; and found that the Project will have no adverse effect on fish and wildlife resources. As part of the scope of the Mitigated Negative Declaration, a Mitigation Monitoring Program has been included. This program will be implemented and monitored by the City.

With respect to the Board's approval of the Project described herein, the County also acts as a responsible agency for the purposes of CEQA, and therefore, we recommend that the Board independently consider and adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and the Mitigation Monitoring Program.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

A Grant Project Agreement will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable

conditions of the grant have been met. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD, but are required so that the LARRC may proceed with the Project in the Third Supervisorial District, if all applicable conditions are met.

**CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this Board letter to the Chief Executive Office, Facilities and Asset Management Division; and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:JB:WRO:tb

c: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors